

The Women's College Club of Princeton Newsletter

June 2021

President's Message

Well, May was not my last President's message.

We, the board, are very excited to announce that we have found a new "home" for the Women's College Club! Starting in September the Club will meet at the Stockton Education Center at Morven Museum and Garden right in town. The Center is spacious and has wonderful audio and visual equipment which allows us to offer a wider range of programs. There is ample and easily accessed parking at Morven itself and at the parking lot of the municipal building. Morven staff has been generous with their time and energy and we look forward to working with them as we continue to pursue our goal of helping young women with their college expenses and meeting together to share our interests and enthusiasms. What a wonderful way to come out of the isolation of this past year! Please bring friends to share in our new adventure.

At the September meeting we will immediately vote on a slate of new officers of the Club who will guide us through a new year. I am so excited to pass the gavel onto Connie Loukatos, the perfect person to lead us into this new adventure. Her wisdom, kindness, and perspective are just what we need as we set out on another year.

Kathy Hutchins

GENERAL MEETINGS 2021-2022

Stockton Education Center, Morven

Our new meeting space:



EACH MEETING WILL BE HELD THE THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 1 PM, EXCEPT JANUARY'S MEETING.:

SEPT 20, OCT 18, NOV 15, DEC 20, JAN 17, 10 AM, FEB 21, MAR 21, APR 18, MAY 16, JUNE 20.

MEMBERSHIP

If you know of women who would like to join our club, please contact Membership Chair, Alyce Conlon, alymar@comcast.net or 609-448-7064.

LUNCHING OUT GROUP

We are meeting at Vidalia's in Lawrenceville on Friday, June 11 at noon.

If you would like to join us, please contact Bonnie Larson, bonniejarson63@comcast.net or 609-655-2663.

WCCP 2021 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

This year we had 20 scholarship winners. We are breaking them up into two groups. The first group will be in this newsletter and the rest will be in the next newsletter. We would like to congratulate all of the girls. They all have impressive backgrounds and are worthy recipients.

The Women's College Club of Princeton is pleased to award a scholarship to Nazareth **Mehreteab**, a student from The Princeton Day School. Nazareth's counselor and teachers state that Nazareth is very inquisitive with strong reasoning abilities. She is willing to express opposing ideas and enjoys leading discussions. Nazareth is able to contribute excellent ideas even during remote learning. She delves into topics until she is certain of her understanding of the material. Nazareth has taken a most challenging academic program, while maintaining high grades in Honors and Advanced Placement classes. Her great interest in technology led her to develop a computer application to guide low-income students through the college application process.

Nazareth has participated in many extracurricular activities and has given much time to community service. She has been a clarinet player and has been

helpful to younger students in the band. She has belonged to the NAACP's Afro-American, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics where she won two silver medals for writing. She has participated in the Princeton Day School chapter of the National Organization of Women, where she conducted bi-weekly discussions and assisted with a conference at The Princeton Day School. She has shown a strong interest in racial justice, gender equality, and she planned a workshop on immigrants' rights and led others in the state on that topic. She has been a member of the Black and Latino Student Union. Nazareth completed an internship in which she explored trends in marketing strategies. She has been an online features editor. She volunteered at When All Vote Campaign, registering over 3,000 Americans to vote using social media to encourage voting accessibility. She was selected as a youth leader for Somerset County high school students to discuss local issues with freeholders, lawyers, and healthcare professions.

Nazareth will attend Tufts University where she will major in Economics and minor in Computer Science.

The Luna Kayser Memorial Scholarship was awarded to **Eilah Wahlin**, a student at The Hun School of Princeton. Eilah's teachers have described Eilah as eager to learn, observant and perceptive. Her insights into topics have been valuable during class discussions. When challenged in math class, she put forth a great effort until success was achieved. Eilah's counselor stated that Eilah has been kind and nonjudgmental toward others. She has achieved excellent grades while taking a challenging academic program.

Eilah has participated in numerous school and community activities. She has played varsity basketball and in ninth grade managed the team. She also participated in varsity crew. Eilah has given volunteer time to The Salvation Army, March of Dimes, Ronald McDonald House, and the Special Olympics. She was a speaker and panelist at a Youth Summit at the Academy of Life. She participated in a mental health summit for teens, parents and educators. She has been president of the Black Student Union and hosted and created a network of events for New Jersey Schools. She has worked as a Resident Life Proctor at Hun. Year round she

has babysat for multiple families. Eilah has interned at Wordee Publishing House, where she assisted with proofreading, marketing, and book content.

Eilah will attend Tulane University in the fall. She will be on the pre-med track with a major in Psychology.

The Women's College Club of Princeton is pleased to award the Molly Updike award to **Krelyn Zacarias** of Princeton High School. Krelyn's science teacher stated that Krelyn read many scientific articles, wrote a literature review, and planned a research project for grades eleven and twelve. She began working on a two-year research program focusing on plastic eating microbes from soil samples. However, she was unable to complete the work due to the Coronavirus shut down. She co-founded the Astrophysics Club and obtained data from NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite with the goal of discovering exoplanets around distant stars. She demonstrated a strong drive and self-motivation during online learning, as she continued to work on her many topics of interest. Krelyn's Social Studies teacher described Krelyn as having exceptional reasoning skills. She was a founder of Scidestination, which brings science education to underserved classrooms around the world. Krelyn has shown great insight and has contributed valuable information during discussions. She has enjoyed sharing her thoughts of Latin American history with her peers. While taking a challenging course load, Krelyn excelled in all subject areas.

Krelyn has volunteered a great deal of time to community service. She was in an advisory group at Corner House where she spoke to teens about the consequences of drug and alcohol abuse. She co-chaired Social Media Public Service announcements, planned social events for groups and gathered information on housing programs. She was Co-President of Generation One, which mentors and guides first generation high school students, and assists with the college application process. She has been a member of the Italian Honor Society, and has participated in the Waksman Student Scholars Program and was a finalist in the QuestBridge National College Match. Krelyn has been a member of the Princeton University Materials Academy, Co-President of Girl Up, which involves clothing

drives for girls in third world countries. She also was co-founder of the Princeton Astrophysics Club, which conducts research on Astronomy.

Krelyn will attend Colgate University this summer in a scholar's program. She will continue her studies there in astrophysics.

The Women's College Club of Princeton is pleased to give an award to **Milan Moise**, a student from The Hun School of Princeton. Milan's teachers remark about Milan's strong writing and analytical skills. She is seen as a natural leader. She enjoys challenging both peers and teachers to in-depth discussions. She gives full commitment to all her endeavors. She is always respectful and empathic toward others and she brings a joy to the classroom. During the Covid-19 school closure, Milan started designing model rockets. Milan's counselor taught a class titled "Walking in MLK's Footsteps." It required students to focus on social justice during discussions and to travel to the cities of Atlanta, Birmingham and Montgomery, visiting historic sites. While completing an independent study in this class Milan demonstrated a great understanding of how past racial systematic oppression has affected current problems, such as the mass incarceration of black people.

Milan's contributions led her to be the keynote speaker for the 2019 convocation and the 2020 National Association of Independent Schools Conference. She has been an active member and has served as vice president of the local chapter of the Jack and Jill Association, which involves leadership development, volunteerism, philanthropic giving and civic duty. She has been a member of Hun's Acapella group and has served as co-president of the Black Student Union. She was the Step Team Captain, and was on the Stem scholars track. She has been a member of the National Honor Society, a Special Olympics volunteer and has participated in the W.E.B. Du Bois Scholars Institute. Milan has achieved excellent grades while taking Honors and Advanced Placement classes.

Milan plans on studying Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at The George Washington University.

The Women's College Club of Princeton is pleased to award a scholarship to **Lila O'Kane** from Princeton High School. Lila's teachers who taught Lila Japanese and Genetics described her as responsible, intelligent, and organized. An example of her creativity was when she completed an assignment answering the question "What is Cancer?" She applied the question to real life situations, which showed empathy for the patient. She studied French and Sign Language and has taken a Mandarin language course online with students from around the world. She has demonstrated intellectual curiosity and an open mindedness. She achieved a high academic standing in a rigorous program. Lila participated in the Kanazawa/Princeton Exchange Program. She was not able to go to Japan due to the pandemic. However, she was still able to learn more about the language and culture. She has continued to take piano lessons. Lila co-authored the book Word Birdy, the Unheard-of Word Dictionary, which is a book of invented words and definitions, some very humorous. In 2019 Lila volunteered with the North American Federation of Temple Youth. She worked in the Tikun Olam project in Jerusalem, which involved assisting the less advantaged and also helping adults with disabilities. Lila learned Sign Language and about the deaf culture while taking classes at Marie Katzenbach school. Lila volunteered at the Arts Council of Princeton, leading children in their creative works. Lila contributed to her school community by working as Wardrobe Supervisor. She traveled to Paris through the Colmar Princeton Exchange Program.

Lila will be attending American University where she plans to major in International Relations and Japanese.

The Women's College Club of Princeton is pleased to present a scholarship to **Jordan Young** from The Princeton Day School. Jordan's teachers stated that Jordan is hard working, mature and thoughtful. She has been a leader among her peers. When she completed a project on refugees and displaced persons in Yemen, her presentation displayed a deep understanding of the issues, and a good grasp of statistical analysis. She has been well prepared for classes and she always contributed to discussions. When she needed to research how the media stereotypes women, Jordan showed an independent and intelligent way of thinking. Jordan's counselor

remarked that Jordan loves hands-on work; for example, she designed 3-D printed glasses. Her work in photography has been outstanding. She has done an excellent job when working with lower school students in the Teacher Assistant Program. Jordan's senior project "Dress A Girl Around The World" involved sewing clothes for impoverished girls.

Jordan has taken a strong academic program, and has achieved high grades in all subjects. Jordan has played ice hockey on both the Junior Varsity and Varsity teams. She played Lacrosse Club, competing against nationally ranked teams. She has been an American Red Cross volunteer, participating in fund raisers. As a Peer Leader and Mentor, she advised freshman students. Jordan has worked year-round as a certified Red Cross lifeguard.

Jordan will attend Syracuse University where she plans to study Photography and Retail Management.

The Women's College Club of Princeton is pleased to present a scholarship to **Ja'Niyah Williams** from Princeton High School. Ja'Niyah's teachers describe Ja'Niyah as dependable, honest and determined to succeed. She has been consistent with managing time and peers can always depend on her. She set goals and is committed to achieving them. She has been an active participant in class. As part of her racial history class, she toured Washington D.C. where she completed a digital photo gallery of the tour. When schools closed in March 2020, Ja'Niyah worked on a web-based project to build community around some of her favored interests. During virtual learning she was flexible and kept interest in her studies. Ja'Niyah stated that she took an entrepreneurship summer program at a local university to learn the steps of owning a business. Ja'Niyah attended a program called Minding Our Business through a non-profit organization. Its goals are to meet community needs by assisting urban youth with vocational and personal development. Ja'Niyah has belonged to the Advocacy for Youth Program, which guides students with college preparation. She helped with an End Hunger organization and worked at Community House, which deals with tutoring and mentorship. Ja'Niyah was employed at a local ice cream shop.

Ja'Niyah plans to attend Montclair State University, majoring in Business Administration. Her goal is to someday own a Day Care Center.

The Women's College Club of Princeton is proud to award a scholarship to **Faith Neo**, a student at Princeton High School. Faith's teachers described Faith as responsible and diligent. She has demonstrated solid critical thinking skills and was able to connect her history lessons with other subject areas. She has been a strong and creative science student. Faith has pursued a rigorous academic program, and obtained A's in Honors and Advanced Placement classes. Faith has contributed much of her time and talents to school and community activities. While living in California she volunteered at the Orange County Rescue Mission and Mary's Kitchen. When she moved to Princeton, she began working with special education students. Faith stated that through these volunteer experiences she has acquired a love for psychology and law. She mentioned her passion for music and has played piano, violin, guitar and ukulele, which led to becoming a co-leader in a Music Therapy club. She incorporated this therapy when working with middle school special education students. Her talent as a violin player led her to be concertmaster for the Chamber Orchestra. She has been giving affordable beginner violin and piano lessons from home, and organized activities at the Nassau Christian Center. Faith has enjoyed playing lacrosse and received the athlete scholar award. She mentioned that while participating in this sport she loved the team spirit and cooperation.

Faith will be studying at the University of California at Irvine, where she plans on majoring in Literary Journalism. After college she wants to pursue a law degree.

The Women's College Club of Princeton is pleased to present an award to **Sophia Miranda**, a student at The Princeton Day School.

Sophia's teachers described Sophia as very capable and diligent. She received almost perfect scores on all her Philosophy exams. Even though much of her time needed to be given to soccer, she always demonstrated a commitment to her academics. She

put forth a strong effort in Honors Physics and displayed a clear understanding of the material. She remained focused and consistent even when classes were remote. Sophia's counselor mentioned Sophia's level of maturity, as she balanced her extracurricular activities with her studies. She has taken a rigorous academic program, achieving A's in Honors and Advanced Placement classes. She was elected a Student Life Representative and has gained much respect from faculty and peers.

Sophia has received many awards for soccer. She has been a Student Ambassador, giving tours to prospective students. As a Student Life representative, she helped plan the homecoming and prom. She has volunteered at Mercer Street Friends, helping to distribute food. She has worked as a Printer at Ewing Sports and has been an Instacart shopper.

Sophia will attend Haverford College and is interested in studying the sciences.

The Women's College Club of Princeton is pleased to award a scholarship to **Aaliyah Sayed**, a student at The Princeton Day School.

Aaliyah's teachers described Aaliyah as someone who will excel in the fields of technology and research. She has developed many computer applications including those for shelters to obtain access to food. She completed an independent study on artificial intelligence. She has displayed a superior analytical skill in her writing. She was able to successfully complete challenging programming projects. Aaliyah's counselor stated that Aaliyah is one of the most innovative and entrepreneurial students she has ever worked with. She has made plans to use her talents in technology to work on environmental issues. She has achieved straight A's in a most rigorous academic program.

Aaliyah has been involved in a variety of school and community activities. She was Co-founder and CEO of 19 CovidAid which connected volunteers with those most impacted by the pandemic. There have been over five hundred users and organizations; this was featured in national news. She built applications to research food insecurity, unemployment and traffic accidents. Aaliyah has been president of the

Computer Science and Technology Club. She has earned Scholar of Distinction for the National Academic Squad for her participation in Varsity Field Hockey. Through the Wolfram Emerging Leaders Program, she led students to research unemployment trends. She taught fourth graders how to code and mentored students in STEM homework. She has been a participant in a Selective Entrepreneurship Program. She was the head science editor for the school newspaper. She was named an Energy and Climate Scholar by Princeton University.

Aaliyah will attend Princeton University and will continue to pursue her technological research in ways that can provide solutions to difficult world problems.

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